



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/667,926	09/22/2003	Jie-Wei Chen	03-494	1618
34704	7590	02/09/2006	EXAMINER	
BACHMAN & LAPOINTE, P.C. 900 CHAPEL STREET SUITE 1201 NEW HAVEN, CT 06510				HEINRICH, SAMUEL M
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		1725		

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/667,926	CHEN ET AL.	
	Examiner Samuel M. Heinrich	Art Unit 1725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 17-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 17-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 14 November 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 17-20, 22, 25-27, and 29-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,884,906 to Morse in view of USPN 6,210,507 to Hansen et al. Morse discloses a workpiece support comprising multiple jaws which can accommodate multiple and various workpieces. Morse does not disclose a glass clamping face. Hansen et al disclose transparent clamp features (see Figures 2A, 2B, 3A, and 3B) and the use of a transparent clamp element in place of a clamp element disclosed by Morse would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because the transparent clamp is very

well known and because the transparent clamp provides improved access to supported workpiece features. Morse disclose (column 5) working on fewer work pieces than the number of cavities, and this is a selective and prescribable clamping. The direction of the clamps being described in a vertical direction is simply a description of tooling orientation and does not impart patentability to the claim. With respect to using multiple interchangeable clamp elements, the use of multiple fixturing jigs for working on multiple workpieces is well known in the art as both Morse and Hansen et al disclose different fixture embodiments. Morse discloses (Figure 1) the use of a flexible resilient strip for workpiece support. The use of transparent tape strips are very well known in the laser bonding art and the use of a transparent tape along with a transparent clamp would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because the tape provides flexible workpiece support.

Claims 21, 23, 24, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,884,906 to Morse in view of USPN 6,210,507 to Hansen et al as applied to claims 17 and 26 above, and further in view of USPN 6,202,999 to Wayman et al. Morse discloses individually controllable clamps, but does not describe multiple pressures. Wayman et al disclose workpiece support having multiple varying pressure application. The use of a clamp having multiple pressure capability would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because the multiple pressures provide better control of the workpiece during various processing steps.

Citation of Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ream et al and Steiner et al disclose multiple independently controlled clamps.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed November 14, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues initially that Morse does not disclose a translucent material as a jaw element. This argument is not convincing because the rejection relied on a secondary reference for the individual translucent material feature. Applicant also argues that the plurality of operating pistons in the first jaw cannot be independently variable nor pressed selectively. These arguments are not convincing at least for the following reason: One cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). See the rejection based on Wayman et al for description of multiple varying pressure application.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

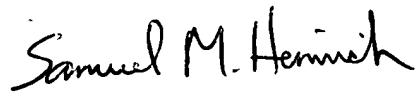
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel M. Heinrich whose telephone number is 571-272-1175. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Dunn can be reached on 571-272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Samuel M Heinrich
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1725

SMH